



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### Subsidiary Body on Implementation

#### Fourth meeting

Nairobi, 21–29 May 2024

Agenda item 5 (a)

**Capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation, clearing-house mechanism and knowledge management under the Convention and its Protocols**

### Clearing-house mechanism and knowledge management

#### Draft recommendation submitted by the Chair

*The Subsidiary Body on Implementation*

*Recommends* that, at its sixteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

#### A

##### Clearing-house mechanism

*Recalling* decisions XI/2 of 19 October 2012, XII/2 B of 17 October 2014, XIII/23 B of 17 December 2016, 14/19 and 14/25 of 29 November 2018 and 15/16 of 19 December 2022,

*Emphasizing* the critical importance of the clearing-house mechanism in supporting the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,<sup>1</sup>

*Recognizing* the importance of the clearing-house mechanism in supporting the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Framework, as contained in annex II, the communications strategy to support the implementation of the Framework<sup>2</sup>, and the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review,

*Recognizing also* that the clearing-house mechanism should be compatible with and supportive of relevant national and international regulations regarding data-sharing and data sovereignty,

1. [Welcomes][Adopts] the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030, contained in annex I to the present decision;

2. Invites Parties, other Governments, the regional and/or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres, the global knowledge support service for biodiversity and relevant organizations to implement the programme of work for the clearing-house

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 15/4, annex.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 15/14, annex.

mechanism in order to support the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>3</sup> and its Protocols and the Framework;

3. *Encourages* Parties to continue to take the steps necessary to establish or strengthen national clearing-house mechanisms and to ensure their sustainability;

4. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in a position to do so to provide financial, technical and human resources to enable developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to implement the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030;

5. *Encourages* Parties to join relevant biodiversity-related networks, such as the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, with a view to developing capacities to manage and share data and information, in order to manage and conserve biodiversity effectively;

[6 *Invites* the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, to consider funding requests from developing country Parties, as well as Parties with economies in transition, to implement the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030;]

7. *Invites* the regional and/or subregional support centres, the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and the global knowledge support service for biodiversity to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism in collaboration with the Secretariat and relevant organizations and initiatives;

8. *Notes* the progress made on the development of the Bioland tool and interoperability features and the number of Parties that have used the tool to establish or strengthen their national clearing-house mechanism portals;

9. *Invites* Parties to use the Bioland tool to establish or strengthen their national clearing-house mechanism portals;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To implement the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for 2024–2030 in collaboration with Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, regional and/or subregional support centres and the global coordination entity, the global knowledge support service for biodiversity and relevant initiatives and organizations, with the guidance of the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation;

(b) To facilitate, in cooperation with the regional and/or subregional support centres, relevant organizations and initiatives, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, capacity-building and development activities to enable Parties to implement the programme of work;

(c) To further develop and strengthen the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, including through the improvement of the accessibility of relevant information, such as scientific assessment needs and activities, in line with the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism;

(d) To enhance the organization and management of content in the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism in order to facilitate its accessibility, exchange and use across diverse applications and platforms;

(e) To further improve the Convention website and ensure that the content is available in all six official languages of the United Nations;

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<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

(f) To further develop the Bioland tool and build the capacity of Parties to use it effectively for developing or strengthening their national clearing-house mechanism portals in line with the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and in collaboration with the regional and/or subregional support centres, the global knowledge support service for biodiversity and Parties that already use the Bioland tool;

## **B**

### **Knowledge management**

*Recalling* decisions 14/25 of 29 November 2018 and 15/16 of 19 December 2022,

*Recalling also* Target 21 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,<sup>4</sup>

*Taking note* of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism (2024–2030) contained in annex I to the present decision, the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, the communications strategy to support the implementation of the Framework,<sup>5</sup> and the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review,

*Emphasizing* the critical importance of ensuring easy and timely access to good quality data, information and knowledge to support the implementation of the Framework,

*Stressing* that the capacities to generate, collect, organize and share biodiversity-relevant data are uneven and that the developing countries require enhanced international support, through capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and access to and transfer of technology, to strengthen national information and monitoring systems,

*Recognizing* that knowledge management activities should be compatible with and supportive of relevant national and international regulations regarding data sharing and data sovereignty,

[1. *Adopts* the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, contained in annex II to the present decision;<sup>6</sup>]<sup>7</sup>

2. *Recognizes* that nothing in the knowledge management strategy should be understood as modifying the rights and obligations of a Party under the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>8</sup> or any other international agreement;

3. *Stresses* that addressing inequalities between countries in the capacities to generate, collect, organize and share biodiversity-relevant data, including by enhancing capacity-building, scientific and technical cooperation and access to and transfer of technology, is critical to enable the implementation of the knowledge management strategy;

4. *Takes note* of the draft indicative workplan for the implementation of the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Framework for the period 2025-2030 contained in document CBD/SBI/4/INF/9;

5. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to implement the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Framework;

6. *Also invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in a position to do so to provide financial, technical and human resources to enable developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to implement the knowledge management strategy;

<sup>4</sup> Decision 15/4, annex.

<sup>5</sup> Decision 15/14, annex.

<sup>6</sup> Annex II is lifted from document CBD/SBI/4/7/Add.2, annex.

<sup>7</sup> Pending agreement on the strategy.

<sup>8</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

7. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to provide support for knowledge management within country-driven projects;

8. *Invites* the regional and/or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres, the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and the global knowledge support service for biodiversity to support the implementation of the knowledge management strategy in collaboration with the Secretariat, relevant organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities and youth and their initiatives;

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To support the implementation of the knowledge management strategy, with the guidance of the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation;

(b) To further implement, in collaboration with the regional and/or subregional support centres, the Global Knowledge Support Service for Biodiversity and other relevant initiatives, organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations, the Knowledge Management for Biodiversity Initiative to strengthen the capacities of Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth in knowledge management, including by facilitating the holding of training courses, global workshops, webinars and knowledge fairs and catalysing the establishment and strengthening of biodiversity networks and communities of practice;

(c) To further develop, with the guidance of the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation, biodiversity-related vocabularies, taxonomies, ontologies and metadata standards through the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism to improve the classification, standardization, search and retrieval of the information on biodiversity, in direct relation with the goals, targets and indicators of the Framework;

(d) To further classify the available information relating to the targets, including the guidance and tools, best practices and lessons learned submitted by Parties and observers in documents CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/15 and CBD/SBSTTA26/INF/16, and other elements of the Framework, using the appropriate metadata standards and taxonomies as currently defined in the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and the clearing-houses of the Protocols;

(e) To submit a report on the implementation of the aforementioned activities for consideration and further guidance by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting and the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting.

## **Annex I**

### **Programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030**

1. The programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030 is designed to support and facilitate the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework<sup>9</sup> and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Building on the previous programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2011–2020, it is aimed at facilitating the means of implementation, especially technical and scientific cooperation, capacity-building and development, knowledge management and communication,<sup>10</sup> and resource mobilization, as well as other programmes and action plans, including the Gender Plan of Action (2023–2030),<sup>11</sup> [the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity within and across

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<sup>9</sup> Decision [15/4](#), annex.

<sup>10</sup> Decisions [15/8](#), [15/14](#) and 16/--.

<sup>11</sup> Decision [15/11](#), annex.

sectors], and the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>12</sup> related to indigenous peoples and local communities.<sup>13</sup>

2. The goals of the programme of work are the following:

(a) *Goal 1: to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation.* The clearing-house mechanism will strengthen processes and services to promote and facilitate equitable technical and scientific cooperation, including match-making initiatives, the development and strengthening of national capacities in line with the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development and in support of the work of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism;

(b) *Goal 2: to facilitate exchange of information.* The clearing-house mechanism will enable sustained and structured access to and exchange of data, information and knowledge through the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism and across global, regional, national and thematic information networks and the clearing-houses, in line with the knowledge management strategy of the Framework;

(c) *Goal 3: to support planning, monitoring, reporting and review.* The clearing-house mechanism will provide tools and strengthen processes and the national clearing-house mechanisms to support and facilitate the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the enhanced approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review;

(d) *Goal 4: to facilitate networking and collaboration.* The clearing-house mechanism will facilitate cross-sectoral interactions, networking, the sharing of expertise and exchanges among Parties, partner organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and other key stakeholders, supporting the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and the Framework.

3. The outcomes expected under each of the four goals, the strategic actions to achieve the outcomes, the key actors that will lead or contribute to the implementation of the strategic actions and the indicative delivery time frames are defined in the updated programme of work.

4. The programme of work will be implemented primarily by the Parties to the Convention and by the Secretariat, with the support of the global coordination entity and the regional and/or subregional support centres of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, as well as global, regional and thematic organizations, in line with whole-of government and whole-of-society approach and the considerations for the implementation of the Framework.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>13</sup> Recommendation [12/2](#) of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

<sup>14</sup> Decision 15/4, annex, sect. C.

### Goals, outcomes and strategic actions of the programme of work

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Strategic actions</i>	<i>Key actors</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
1. To promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation	1.1. Mechanisms to facilitate technical and scientific cooperation at the global, regional and national levels are developed or strengthened.	1.1.A. Develop or strengthen collaborative platforms <sup>15</sup> to promote technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and innovation. <sup>16</sup>	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, organizations <i>Contributing:</i> Parties, Secretariat	2025–2030
		1.1.B. Facilitate events <sup>17</sup> for collaboration and sharing of knowledge, best practices and lessons learned.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, <sup>18</sup> organizations <i>Contributing:</i> Parties, Secretariat	2025–2030
		1.1.C. Facilitate the establishment or strengthening of communities of practice and other knowledge exchange platforms and initiatives to enable the sharing of relevant experiences, expertise and know-how.	<i>Lead:</i> Parties, organizations <i>Contributing:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat	2025–2030
		1.1.D. Establish or strengthen mechanisms to promote joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies and solutions.	<i>Lead:</i> Parties, organizations <i>Contributing:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism Secretariat	2025–2030
	1.2. Matchmaking among Parties with specific technical and scientific needs and other Parties or institutions able to provide the necessary support is facilitated.	1.2.A. Strengthen tools and processes to enable Parties and stakeholders to identify, prioritize and communicate their biodiversity-related technical and scientific needs and requests for assistance.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, <i>Contributing:</i> Parties, organizations	2025–2030
		1.2.B. Take stock of expertise, tools, technologies and other relevant technical and scientific assets that can be shared with Parties.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism,	2025–2030

<sup>15</sup> The collaborative tools may include dialogues, round tables, forums, knowledge fairs, expositions, symposiums and conferences.

<sup>16</sup> Through traditional and digital channels, including the central portal of clearing-house mechanism, the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House, the Biosafety Clearing-House and national clearing-house portals.

<sup>17</sup> The events may include workshops, dialogues, round tables, forums, knowledge fairs, expositions, symposiums and conferences.

<sup>18</sup> This refers to the global coordination entity and the regional and/or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres (see decision 15/8).

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Strategic actions</i>	<i>Key actors</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
			<i>Contributing:</i> organizations, Secretariat	
		1.2.C. Develop or strengthen tools and services, including online platforms <sup>19</sup> to facilitate matchmaking among Parties that need support with stakeholders that can provide it.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, organizations	2025–2030
		1.2.D. Identify, map, link and promote existing matchmaking services at the global, regional and national levels.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, <i>Contributing:</i> Parties, organizations	2025–2030
2. To facilitate the exchange of information	2.1. The central portal of the clearing-house mechanism is providing effective information services to facilitate the implementation of the Framework.	2.1.A. Develop, implement and promote the user workspace in the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism to enable Parties and relevant stakeholders to easily contribute information, keep in contact, share ideas and work together.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2024–2026
		2.1.B. Further develop and implement the online submission system to enable Parties and relevant stakeholders to submit information related to their implementation of the Convention and of the Framework. <sup>20</sup>	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2024–2028
		2.1.C. Further develop and improve the user interface of the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism to make the data, information and knowledge available in the portal easily discoverable and accessible.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2024–2025
		2.1.D. Further develop tools to make the national clearing-house mechanisms and the information systems of partner organizations interoperable and to automatically display relevant information from the central clearing-house mechanism.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2024–2025

<sup>19</sup> This would be made available through the central portal of clearing-house mechanism and national clearing-house mechanism portals.

<sup>20</sup> This includes invitations to submit views, nominate participants and peer-review documents.

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Strategic actions</i>	<i>Key actors</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
		2.1.E. Further develop data aggregation tools to harness information from the national clearing-house mechanisms and information systems of partner organizations.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2024–2026
		2.1.F. Implement other information services as requested by the Conference of the Parties.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat	2025–2030
	2.2. Systems for exchanging, integrating and visualizing information are strengthened.	2.2.A. Further develop and enhance the Convention website, including its design, functionality, accessibility and user-friendliness.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2024–2026
		2.2.B. Further develop and update common formats for collecting, organizing and sharing information and metadata to standardize the structure and organization of information.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2025–2030
		2.2.C. Further develop or modify controlled vocabularies, taxonomies and ontologies to facilitate information-sharing in a consistent and standardized manner at the global, regional and national levels.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2024–2026
		2.2.D. Further strengthen data-sharing mechanisms, including the application programming interface, to facilitate interoperability of relevant information systems with the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House, the Biosafety Clearing-House and national clearing-house mechanism portals.	<i>Lead:</i> Parties, organizations <i>Contributing:</i> regional centres, Secretariat	2025–2030
		2.2.E. Strengthen data visualization tools, such as dashboards and interactive maps, to present complex information in easy-to-understand formats	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> Parties, organizations	2024–2030



<i>Goal</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Strategic actions</i>	<i>Key actors</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
		2.2.F. Strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat to further develop and sustain the central clearing-house mechanism. <sup>21</sup>	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat, Parties <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2024–2030
		2.2.G. Provide additional guidance and training to Parties and stakeholders to use the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism effectively for exchanging information.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2025–2030
3. To support planning, monitoring, reporting and review	3.1. Tools and mechanisms to facilitate and support planning, monitoring, reporting and review of progress in the implementation of the Framework and of the Convention are developed or strengthened.	3.1.A. Further develop and operationalize the online reporting tool to enable Parties to report progress towards the achievement of the goals and targets of the Framework.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, organizations	2024–2026
		3.1.B. Further develop and operationalize the decision-tracking tool to track progress in the implementation of decisions of the Conference of Parties.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, organizations	2025–2026
	3.2 National clearing-house mechanisms are strengthened and are facilitating the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans effectively.	3.2.A. Prepare or update an implementation strategy for the national clearing-house mechanism as a component of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism <i>Contributing:</i> Parties, organizations	2025–2030
		3.2.B. Establish or strengthen institutional structures, including the national focal points, and processes for national clearing-house mechanisms <sup>22</sup> to support national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the monitoring of progress towards national and global targets.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism <i>Contributing:</i> organizations, Parties, organizations	2025–2030

<sup>21</sup> This includes all the tools and services that are required for technical and scientific cooperation, information exchange, knowledge management and monitoring towards the implementation of the Framework.

<sup>22</sup> This may include national focal points, multi-stakeholder coordination bodies, networks and systems, and inter-institutional steering committees with the participation of relevant biodiversity-related organizations and stakeholders; and defining roles and responsibilities for collecting, reviewing and disseminating information, managing website content and for outreach activities.

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Strategic actions</i>	<i>Key actors</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
		3.2.C. Strengthen systems for information exchange, including through the development of links and interoperability between the national clearing-house mechanism and the central portal, and other networks and databases.	<i>Lead:</i> Parties, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism	2025–2030
		3.2.D. Promote the use of the national clearing-house mechanism as a tool to dialogue with relevant stakeholders in line with the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach	<i>Lead:</i> Parties, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism	2025–2030
		3.2.E. Develop or strengthen the information infrastructure for national clearing-house mechanisms, including user interface design, interoperability services, vocabularies and taxonomies, metadata standards, common reporting formats and standards, aligned with the standards of the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism.	<i>Lead:</i> Parties, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism	2024–2026
		3.2.F. Further develop and strengthen national clearing-house mechanism portals using the Bioland tool or other solutions in response to the needs of users and relevant technological developments.	<i>Lead:</i> Parties, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism	2024–2026
		3.2.G. Publish and promote toolkits, technical specifications, guidelines and training material to assist Parties in the use of new information technology and systems.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> Parties, organizations	2024–2030
		3.2.H. Develop or strengthen capacity to use modern digital technologies, including natural language processing, machine learning and other artificial intelligence tools.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> Parties, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism	2025–2030
		3.2.I. Facilitate the mobilization of financial resources for strengthening national clearing-house mechanisms.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat, organizations,	2025–2030

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Strategic actions</i>	<i>Key actors</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
			<i>Contributing:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism	
		3.2.J. Continue the process to recognize and grant awards to the Parties that have made the most significant progress in the establishment or further development of their national clearing-house mechanisms.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat	2025–2030
4. To facilitate networking and collaboration among Parties and partners	4.1 The network of global, regional and national partner organizations and networks is expanded and strengthened.	4.1.A. Identify, map and publicize existing global, regional and national networks, communities of practice and partnerships related to biodiversity.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2025–2030
		4.1.B. Strengthen structures, processes and platforms to link existing biodiversity networks, partnerships and initiatives.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2025–2030
		4.1.C. Promote and facilitate cross-disciplinary interactions to leverage expertise, good practices and ideas from diverse networks.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> other biodiversity related multilateral environmental agreements, organizations	2025–2030
	4.2. Partners are actively networking and exchanging information, expertise, ideas and other resources through the clearing-house mechanism network.	4.2.A. Further develop and update tools and procedures for linking the central clearing-house mechanism with relevant organizations and information networks.	<i>Lead:</i> Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2025–2030
		4.2.B. Further develop tools to facilitate networking and technical exchanges with partner organizations through the central portal and the national clearing-house mechanisms.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2025–2030
		4.2.C. Maintain the database and network of practitioners through the central portal and the national clearing-house mechanisms.	<i>Lead:</i> technical and scientific cooperation mechanism Secretariat <i>Contributing:</i> organizations	2025–2030

## **Annex II**

### **Knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

#### **I. Background and context**

1. Knowledge management is one of the key strategic means of implementation of the Convention and its Protocols that will underpin the achievement of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,<sup>23</sup> as recognized in Target 21 and section K of the Framework, as well as in Article 17 of the Convention.
2. The knowledge management strategy supports the effective implementation of the Framework and complements its monitoring framework, the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development, the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and the clearing-houses of its Protocols.

#### **II. Components**

3. Knowledge management encompasses a range of processes, strategies and practices through which biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge are generated and collected; organized, curated, stored and shared; and used or applied to achieve biodiversity-related objectives and outcomes.
4. While various definitions of knowledge management exist, this strategy considers four interdependent components, namely: (a) people, including knowledge holders, researchers and practitioners, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, managers, curators and users; (b) processes, that is, the relevant procedures, standards and policies; (c) technology and technological tools, systems, infrastructures and platforms; and (d) content, that is, biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including how it is managed, for example through cataloguing, tagging and indexing, digitization and organization.

#### **III. Principles**

5. The strategy recognizes that, to contribute to the achievement of the 2050 vision, goals and targets of the Framework, it is important for data, information and knowledge, including the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities that are made available with their free, prior and informed consent and awareness of further application, possible benefits, and potential consequences,<sup>24</sup> to be available and accessible in a timely manner to decision makers, practitioners and the public. It is also important for knowledge to be fit for purpose in terms of content and format of transmission. In this regard, the strategy acknowledges the approach of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge.<sup>25</sup>
6. Furthermore, it is important for Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and stakeholders to foster a culture of knowledge-sharing, co-production of knowledge, continuous learning from experience, and diverse knowledge systems and knowledge retention and re-use to improve [decision-making at all levels and] implementation processes and practices.
7. The strategy also recognizes that effective knowledge management requires acknowledging and optimizing the contributions of various governmental and non-governmental institutions, regional and

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<sup>23</sup> Decision [15/4](#), annex.

<sup>24</sup> All references to “free, prior and informed consent” refer to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement.”

<sup>25</sup> Approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services” (decision [IPBES/5/1, annex II](#)).

international organizations, infrastructures, researchers, practitioners, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders.<sup>26</sup>

8. The strategy recognizes the importance of embracing new technologies and encourages an innovative and forward-looking approach to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of knowledge management processes.

9. The strategy promotes the principles of findability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability (FAIR principles), with a view to promoting the open sharing of data, information and knowledge and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities related to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

10. In order to ensure that access to the traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities is given with their free, prior and informed consent, the strategy also promotes the principles of collective benefit, authority to control by indigenous peoples and local communities, responsibility, reciprocity and ethics (CARE principles) and the strengthening of their technical capabilities, skills and knowledge.

#### **IV. Purpose**

11. The strategy intends to foster the mutual exchange and use of relevant data, information and knowledge, including traditional knowledge with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities, for informed policy development, planning, decision-making and action at both the policy and practitioner levels to support the implementation and monitoring of the Framework at all levels. It also seeks to develop or strengthen tools and systems to enhance communication, awareness-raising, education, knowledge-sharing and organizational learning among policymakers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders, while respecting the rights and knowledge systems of indigenous peoples and local communities.

12. The strategy aims to address some of the challenges and needs identified by Parties related to biodiversity knowledge, information and data management in order to facilitate the effective implementation of the Framework and related decisions of the Conference of the Parties, including by achieving the following:

(a) Addressing disparities in data and information availability and accessibility across countries, and the barriers to the effective use of existing biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, taking into account the specific challenges faced by developing countries in particular the least developed countries and small islands developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition;

(b) Strengthening regional, national and, as appropriate, subnational capacities, systems and mechanisms for biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge management to support evidence-based, inclusive and gender-responsive decision-making and action, and for the monitoring and reporting of progress towards the achievement of national targets as contributions to the goals and targets of the Framework;

(c) Increasing the level of standardization for greater harmonization and interoperability among regional, national and subnational biodiversity information systems, tools and platforms in accordance with national legislation and regulations;

(d) Leveraging existing biodiversity data, information and knowledge, and biodiversity knowledge management initiatives and networks by bridging the gaps that prevent their full and effective usage;

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<sup>26</sup> The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization describes inclusive knowledge societies as those that value the creation, dissemination, and utilization of knowledge as key drivers for development, fostering collaboration, innovation, and the empowerment of individuals and groups ([UNESCO, 2015](#)).

(e) Developing appropriate national and subnational policies and strategies to support the generation of data and information and knowledge management;

(f) Fostering cooperation and coordination among biodiversity-related conventions to streamline information management processes, including national reporting, data-sharing and knowledge exchange, in accordance with their respective mandates, legal authority and responsibilities;

(g) Enhancing coordination and collaboration among various regional and national biodiversity knowledge initiatives, tools and platforms to avoid their duplication and foster efficiency and sustainability.

13. The strategy promotes a regional approach to knowledge management, through the regional and/or subregional support centres of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism,<sup>27</sup> to encourage the sharing of relevant data, information and knowledge, resources, best practices and expertise among stakeholders to optimize the implementation of the Framework, in accordance with national legislation and regulations.

## V. Expected outcomes

14. The implementation of the strategy is expected to result in: the increased capacity of Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, scientific and academic institutions, women, youth, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to capture, manage and use biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge; an expanded knowledge base; and the increased availability, accessibility and uptake of relevant data, information and knowledge at all levels, with a view to facilitating evidence-based programming and policy design, informed decision-making and the effective implementation, monitoring and reporting of the Framework.

15. The strategic objectives, component actions and main actors to achieve those outcomes are listed in the table in section VIII, below.

## VI. Implementation (2024–2030)

16. The strategy will be implemented in an inclusive and gender-responsive manner by Parties and other Governments, with the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other relevant stakeholders,<sup>28</sup> with support from the Secretariat. The implementation will be in line with the priorities outlined in the national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the Framework and relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties,<sup>29</sup> by making full use of existing resources and cooperation with relevant organizations and processes, noting that any new and additional activities by the Secretariat will need to be conducted subject to the availability of resources.

17. The implementation will be supportive of, and in accordance with, national legislation and regulations pertaining to knowledge management. It will respect, in particular, criteria regarding data sovereignty.

18. The strategy will consider the capacity, technical, technological and financial gaps that undermine the capabilities of countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to produce and gain access to biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge. The strategy will also prioritize the need to engage indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and groups in vulnerable situations in research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

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<sup>27</sup> Decision [15/8](#).

<sup>28</sup> These may include: subnational governments, cities, other local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, the scientific community, academia, faith-based organizations, networks and the private sector.

<sup>29</sup> In particular decisions [15/16](#) and [14/25](#) related to knowledge management, including the Global Knowledge Support Services for Biodiversity and decision 15/8 related to the global coordination entity and the regional and/or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism.

19. The implementation of the strategy by Parties that are developing countries will be dependent on the provision of timely, adequate and predictable means of implementation, including financial resources.

## **VII. Monitoring**

20. The implementation of the strategy will be monitored at sub-national, national and regional levels, using the information provided by Parties in their national reports and the indicators included in the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. It will also be monitored by indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth. Subject to the availability of funding and resources, the Secretariat, the regional and/or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centre and the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and relevant organizations will provide support to Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth in implementing the strategy and monitoring its progress. The information generated from the monitoring process will be used to inform the review and update of the strategy, as appropriate, in 2030.

### VIII. Strategic objectives, actions and actors

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
A. Scoping and framing of the situation and the needs	(1) Map existing knowledge assets, knowledge holders, curators, sources <sup>a</sup> and platforms relevant to the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and national biodiversity strategies and action plans	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations and networks, Secretariat
	(2) Identify knowledge gaps, needs and priorities of Parties	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, Secretariat
	(3) Identify options and mechanisms for addressing the identified knowledge gaps and needs	Parties, subnational governments, organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, academia/scientific community
	(4) Develop national and regional knowledge management, strategies and action plans based on the needs and priorities identified by Parties	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth
	(5) Evaluate the effectiveness of existing knowledge management systems and platforms at the global, regional, national and subnational levels	Parties, subnational governments, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, Secretariat, as relevant
B. Promoting knowledge generation and synthesis	(1) Establish multi-stakeholder processes and mechanisms for knowledge co-creation and production	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations
	(2) Enhance collaboration among government institutions, organizations, scientific and academic institutions), private sector and relevant initiatives to promote knowledge generation	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, Secretariat



<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
	(3) Engage and encourage research and academic institutions, holders of traditional knowledge and other knowledge institutions and communities to undertake research and share relevant data, information and knowledge	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(4) Strengthen national and regional capacity for knowledge generation, including the collection of data, information and knowledge by private citizens at the subnational and local levels	Parties, subnational governments, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(5) Promote the use of digital technology to collect data and information	Parties, subnational governments, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat
	(6) Identify and collect the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, with particular attention to the knowledge of indigenous women, with their free, prior and informed consent, and with clear acknowledgement of the source	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth
	(7) Establish and convene communities of practice on thematic and cross-cutting areas relevant to the implementation of the Framework and knowledge management, including knowledge generation, storage, dissemination and application	Parties, subnational governments, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(8) Promote the documentation and publication of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities in research publications, with their free, prior and informed consent, and with the participation of traditional knowledge holders	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations
C. Facilitating knowledge discovery and collection	(1) Develop, enhance and use web-based tools to discover and collect data, information and knowledge from various sources, including through the promotion of already existing tools, platforms and services available	Secretariat, subnational governments, Parties, academia, organizations
	(2) Promote the use of tools and technology for knowledge discovery	Parties, subnational governments, organizations, Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, academia
	(3) Engage relevant stakeholders, including knowledge holders, generators, creators, brokers and private citizens, in the discovery and collection of knowledge	Parties, subnational governments, organizations

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
D. Enhancing knowledge organization and sharing	(1) Review metadata and enhance the tagging and mapping of knowledge objects from various sources to increase findability, accessibility, interoperability and reuse of data, information and knowledge	Parties, subnational governments, organizations
	(2) Develop and promote data, information and knowledge-sharing standards and protocols and best practices to ensure good quality data, harmonization compatibility and interoperability across biodiversity information systems, tools and platforms <sup>b</sup>	Parties, subnational governments, organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, scientific and academic institutions, women and youth, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(3) Strengthen the capacity of Governments and other stakeholders, including the private sector, to manage and share data, information and knowledge efficiently across conventions <sup>c</sup> and the programme to implement the Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and other related strategies	Parties, subnational governments, Secretariat, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(4) Promote a culture of sharing data, information and knowledge and their application at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, including through entering into data-sharing agreements	Parties, subnational governments, Secretariat, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations and scientific and academic institutions
	(5) Develop, showcase, disseminate and promote tailored knowledge products, including through workshops, webinars, knowledge fairs community meetings, open-access online resources	Secretariat, Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(6) Promote compliance of data users with relevant access and benefit-sharing legislation related to access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources to prevent the misuse and misappropriation of such knowledge.	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, Secretariat
	(7) Develop national repository or portal for biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge to promote access and use as part of or linked to the national clearing-house mechanism	Parties

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
	(8) Encourage peer-to-peer learning on targets of the Framework, thematic and cross-cutting areas related to implementation, and on knowledge management, including through the regional and/or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and the global coordination entity	Secretariat, subnational governments, Parties, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
E. Promoting the uptake and effective use and application of knowledge	(1) Develop and implement strategies to increase the uptake, use and application of existing biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge to inform biodiversity programming and policy and decision-making	Parties, subnational governments, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat
	(2) Promote and facilitate the sharing, replication, scale-up, adaptation and systematization of data, information and knowledge, including documented good practices and lessons learned, to improve processes and practices	Parties, subnational governments, organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(3) Create and use mechanisms to facilitate interactions and dialogue between policymakers and decision makers and the research community, practitioners, indigenous peoples and local communities	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, and scientific and academic institutions
	(4) Establish linkages between scientific networks and communication experts to enable the translation of scientific research outcomes into knowledge products	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, scientific and academic institutions, women and youth, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat
F. Conducting knowledge audits and reviews	(1) Undertake periodic surveys to assess, inter alia, the types of information and knowledge most frequently sought, the ease of access to the information needed, existing knowledge gaps, the level of knowledge-sharing and preferred channels, and uptake, use and application of knowledge in decision-making	Parties, subnational governments, Secretariat
	(2) Analyse major knowledge gaps and identify options to address them	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, Secretariat
	(3) Conduct a comprehensive review of the knowledge management strategy	Parties, subnational governments, Secretariat

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
G. Developing capacity in data, information and knowledge management	(1) Undertake gap and need analyses of national knowledge management capacities in the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans	Secretariat, subnational governments, Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations
	(2) Develop or strengthen the policies, strategies and programmes for biodiversity knowledge management, including for traditional knowledge	Parties, subnational governments, organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth
	(3) Strengthen the institutional capacity of relevant national agencies in biodiversity informatics and knowledge management, including to support efforts by indigenous peoples and local communities to strengthen indigenous knowledge systems of knowledge management	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(4) Strengthen national knowledge management systems and mechanisms for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	Parties, subnational governments, organizations
	(5) Provide guidance on national database development and the sharing of experience in data access and use	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat
	(6) Strengthen the capacities of decision makers, practitioners, the public, relevant stakeholders and knowledge holders to gain access to and use biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including traditional knowledge provided with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, Secretariat
	(7) Develop targeted capacity-building initiatives to support the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth in the generation, management and use of biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, through improved data infrastructure, training, guidance, and technical support	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat
	(8) Establish partnerships between universities and scientific institutions and indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth to enhance the contributions of scientific	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth,

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
	and traditional knowledge to conservation and sustainable use research programmes, in line with the principle of free, prior and informed consent	organizations technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, Secretariat
	(9) Mobilize funding to support knowledge management efforts and ensure sustainability in the generation, collection, management and sharing of biodiversity data, information, and knowledge	Parties, subnational governments, organization, Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
H. Strengthening knowledge networks and partnerships	(1) Strengthen networks on biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge management	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and scientific and academic institutions
	(2) Link centres of expertise, communities of practice, indigenous peoples and local communities and other knowledge sources	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(3) Enhance collaboration among scientific institutions, public institutions and indigenous peoples and local communities in their work on traditional knowledge related to sustainable practices	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism
	(4) Enhance coordination and collaboration among various biodiversity knowledge initiatives, tools and platforms, and community-based monitoring and citizen science programmes	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, Secretariat
	(5) Substantially increase the exchange of results of technical, scientific and socioeconomic research, as well as information on training and surveying programmes, [specialized knowledge, indigenous and traditional knowledge, as such and in combination with the technologies referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 16 of the Convention]	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, organizations, scientific and academic institutions, Secretariat, technical and scientific cooperation mechanism

<sup>a</sup> Including tools identified in the *Compendium of Guidance on Key Global Databases Related to Biodiversity-related Conventions* of the United Nations Environment Programme World

Conservation Monitoring Centre.

<sup>b</sup> In the context of traditional knowledge, this involves the development and promotion of community protocols and biocultural community protocols for gaining access to and using traditional knowledge.

<sup>c</sup> An example of an applicable tool to manage data, information and knowledge at the national level is the Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (available at <https://dart.informea.org>).

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